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**ECONOMIC INDICATORS, NEW SOUTH WALES
OCTOBER 1995**

MAIN FEATURES

EMPLOYMENT

The seasonally adjusted number of employed persons in NSW was 2 790 000 in September 1995, a rise of 0.9% from August and of 3.7% since September 1994. Nationally there was a slight fall in employment from August to September 1995.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The seasonally adjusted number of unemployed persons in NSW was 229 700 in September 1995, a fall of 2.3% from August and of 15.9% since September 1994. The unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, was 7.6% in NSW in September 1995 and 8.5% nationally.

**NEW MOTOR VEHICLE
REGISTRATIONS**

The seasonally adjusted figure for New Motor Vehicle registrations in NSW decreased by 10.0% from 19 339 in July 1995 to 17 402 in August 1995.

BUILDING APPROVALS

The seasonally adjusted number of new dwelling units approved in NSW in August 1995 was 3 559, representing a decrease of 17.2% on the previous month. Approvals for both Houses and Other Residential Buildings decreased over the previous period.

**BUILDING COMMENCE-
MENTS**

The number of new dwelling units commenced in NSW in the June Quarter 1995 was 11 976, an increase of 5.6% on the previous quarter. Commencements for both Houses and Other Residential Buildings rose over the previous period.

FINANCE

The value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in NSW in August 1995 rose by 0.8% from the previous month but was 6.4% lower than in August 1994. The value of personal and commercial finance commitments made in NSW in August 1995 rose by 0.9% and 14.1% respectively from July 1995.

NOTES

This publication provides information on a wide range of economic indicators which are the latest available at the time of publication. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues.

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

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Gregory W. Bray
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

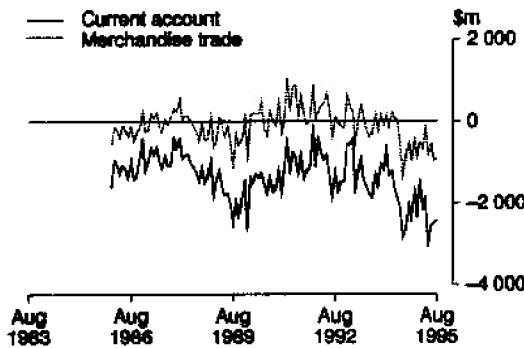
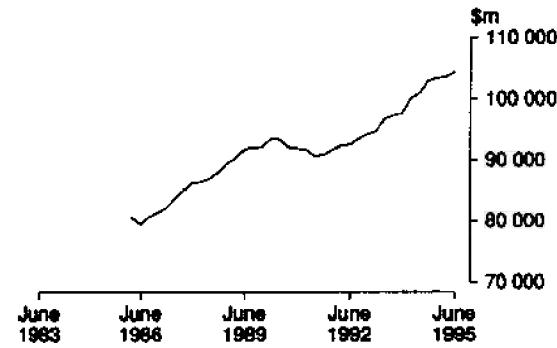
INQUIRIES:

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact John Petersen on Sydney (02) 268 4586 or any ABS office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.

1

NATIONAL ECONOMY

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Change over prior period			Change over year
National Accounts percentage change, average 1989-90 prices, (seasonally adjusted)—						
Gross non-farm product	%	June qtr 95	0.8			4.3
Gross domestic product	%	June qtr 95	0.7			3.4
Figures for preceding periods						
Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago
Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago
Balance of payments—						
Merchandise exports	\$m	Aug. 95	6 054	6 239	5 685	6 156
Merchandise imports	\$m	Sept. 95	-6 120	-6 955	-7 190	-6 217
Balance on merchandise trade	\$m	Aug. 95	-901	-956	-543	-823
Balance on goods and services	\$m	Aug. 95	-1 047	-1 012	-843	-1 109
Balance on current account	\$m	Aug. 95	-2 422	-2 493	-2 550	-3 081
Balance on current account (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Aug. 95	-1 526	-2 008	-2 562	-3 200
Terms of trade for goods and services—						
Index (seasonally adjusted) 1989-90 = 100		June qtr 95	93.6	92.4	91.5	89.2
Exchange Rates at end of period—						
\$US/\$A		Aug. 95	0.7524	0.7389	0.7086	0.7138
Trade weighted index of value \$A May 1970 = 100		Aug. 95	53.9	51.0	48.4	48.5
Interest Rates—						
Prime rate (Source: Reserve Bank)	%	Sept. 95	10.65-10.75	10.65-10.75	10.65-10.75	10.60-10.75
			8.95-9.75			

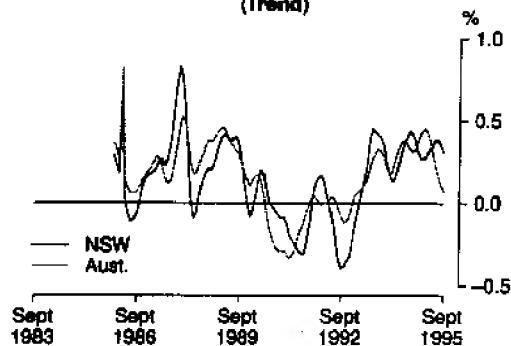
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
AUSTRALIA
(Monthly)GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, AUSTRALIA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(Average 1989-1990 prices, quarterly)

2

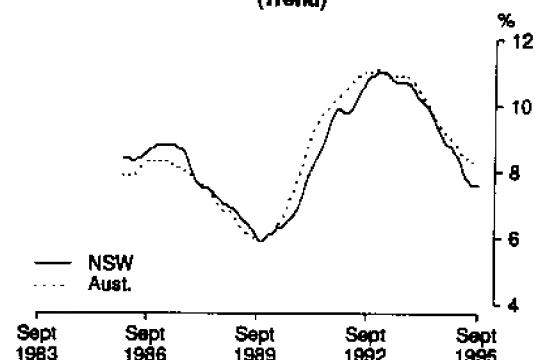
NEW SOUTH WALES IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator		Latest period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	Aust.
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	Sept. 95	7.6	9.3	9.5	9.8	7.6	9.1	8.5	
Percentage change from previous year—									
Employed persons	Sept. 95	3.7	2.5	3.8	1.3	3.7	2.6	3.1	
Consumer price index: all groups	June qtr 95	4.9	3.7	4.8	3.8	5.3	4.2	4.5	
Average weekly employee earnings: full-time adult ordinary time (trend estimates)	May 95	5.9	5.1	4.0	3.0	5.0	2.3	4.9	
Retail turnover (trend estimates)	Aug. 95	8.5	8.7	8.7	13.3	7.0	3.2	8.7	
New motor vehicle registrations	Aug. 95	-5.4	10.5	1.0	17.2	2.8	-4.7	2.3	
Dwelling units approved	Aug. 95	-40.5	-35.2	-45.4	-37.9	-31.2	-23.6	-39.4	
Value of non-residential building approved	Aug. 95	4.4	62.0	99.8	-3.4	-31.1	97.7	28.1	
Value of all buildings approved	Aug. 95	-24.1	-7.6	-9.8	-22.9	-24.8	13.8	-16.4	
Value of engineering construction work done	June qtr 95	12.0	-2.2	1.6	0.7	3.2	-7.8	4.5	
Room occupancy rate in licensed hotels and motels etc.	June qtr 95	5.8	6.2	-0.7	5.5	4.9	-5.5	3.7	
Actual private new capital expenditure	Mar. qtr 95	28.2	19.3	17.4	28.8	33.5	143.8	24.1	

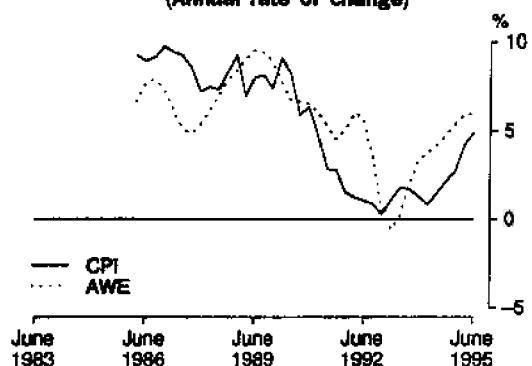
MONTHLY CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
(Trend)



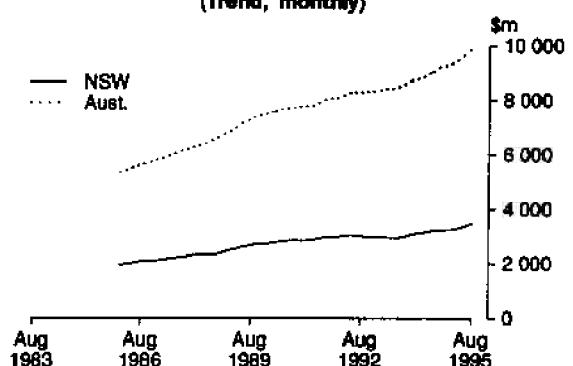
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(Trend)



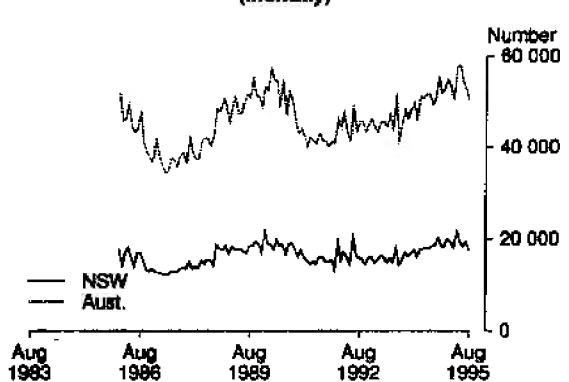
PRICES AND EARNINGS, NSW
(Annual rate of change)



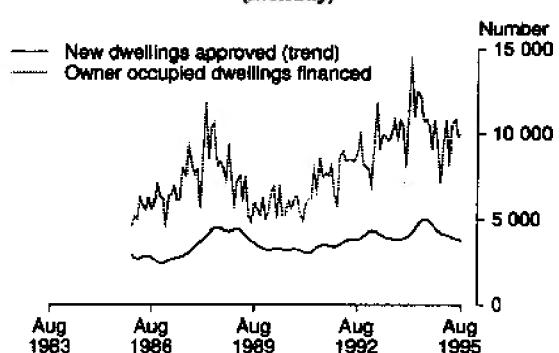
RETAIL TURNOVER
(Trend, monthly)



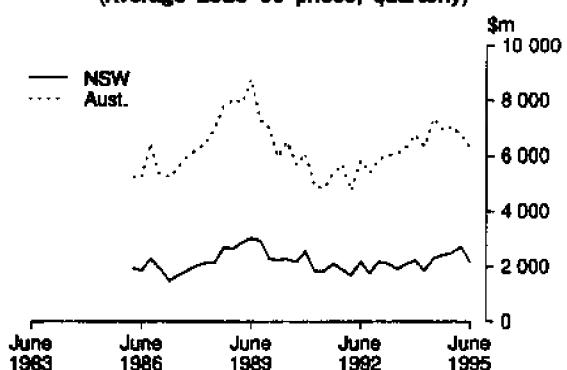
NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED
(Monthly)



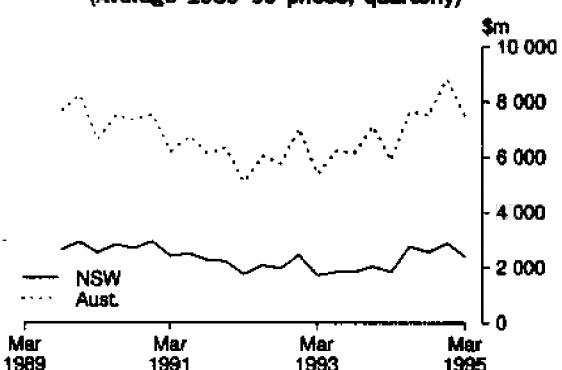
NEW DWELLINGS APPROVED AND HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, NSW
(monthly)



VALUE OF ALL BUILDINGS COMMENCED
(Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)



PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
(Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)



Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales			Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Population				%	%		%	%
Estimated resident population	'000s	Mar. qtr 95	6 098	0.32	0.94	18 001	0.38	1.11
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000s	Sept. 95	4 811	0.09	1.16	14 172	0.11	1.42
Labour Force								
Employed persons—full-time (original series)	'000s	Sept. 95	2 160	2.3	3.9	6 284	1.6	2.7
—total (original series)	'000s	Sept. 95	2 811	2.2	3.7	8 341	1.5	3.1
—total (seasonally adjusted)	'000s	Sept. 95	2 790	0.9	3.7	8 258	-0.2	3.1
Unemployed persons—(original series)	'000s	Sept. 95	230	1.6	-18.0	763	5.7	-8.1
—(seasonally adjusted)	'000s	Sept. 95	230	-2.3	-15.9	763	1.3	-8.0
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000s	Sept. 95	3 020	0.6	1.9	9 021	-0.1	2.1
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Sept. 95	62.8	0.5	0.7	63.7	-0.2	0.7
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Sept. 95	7.6	-2.9	-17.4	8.5	1.4	-9.9
Job vacancies	'000s	Aug. 95	32	33.8	13.6	62	15.3	-9.8
Weekly paid overtime per employee (a)	hours	Aug. 95	6.9	-2.1	1.6	6.8	-4.7	-3.9
Average Weekly Employee Earnings								
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings (trend estimates)	\$	May 95	671.60	1.4	5.9	646.10	1.3	4.9
All employees total earnings (trend estimates)	\$	May 95	573.90	0.8	4.3	548.50	0.6	3.0
Industrial Disputes —Working days lost	'000s	July 95	3.0	-54.6	-71.4	35.9	-8.2	0.3
Consumer Price Index, All Groups	1989-90=100	Sept. qtr 95	117.3	1.6	5.7	117.6	1.2	5.1
Retail Turnover (trend estimates)	\$m	Aug. 95	3 501	1.3	8.5	9 918	0.9	8.7
New Motor Vehicle Registrations (seasonally adjusted)	No.	Aug. 95	17 402	-10.0	-5.8	50 254	-5.1	1.6
Passenger vehicles (seasonally adjusted)	No.	Aug. 95	14 712	-9.9	-7.1	42 082	-4.2	1.7
Other motor vehicles (excl. motor cycles) (seas. adj.)	No.	Aug. 95	2 689	-10.4	1.8	8 173	-9.3	1.0
Production								
Clay bricks (seasonally adjusted) (b)	million	Aug. 95	52	-13.1	-15.1	125	-10.7	-20.3
Electricity (seasonally adjusted)	mill. kWh	Aug. 95	4 975	-6.7	-0.8	13 353	-6.2	-1.9
Gas (seasonally adjusted) (b)	terajoules	Aug. 95	8 665	-9.1	-2.5	48 366	-12.0	-5.9
Overseas Trade								
Imports	\$m	Sept. 95	2 861	-7.0	5.5	6 285	-8.2	4.6
Exports, Australian produce	\$m	Aug. 95	1 469	2.8	21.7	5 816	-2.6	14.5
Tourism								
Overseas visitor short-term arrivals	'000s	Aug. 95	129	-13.8	8.2	305	-7.5	15.0
Resident overseas short-term departures	'000s	Aug. 95	81	-14.3	12.1	198	-15.5	9.8
Licensed hotels, motels etc. with facilities—								
Guest nights	'000s	June qtr 95	5 039	-5.3	4.4	14 585	-5.7	2.6
Room occupancy rate	%	June qtr 95	56.6	-3.7	5.8	56.1	-3.4	3.7
Building								
Approvals—								
Dwelling units (seasonally adjusted)	No.	Aug. 95	3 559	-17.2	-42.0	10 373	-7.7	-41.0
Value of new residential building (seasonally adj.)	\$m	Aug. 95	370	-13.8	-47.0	989	-0.7	-39.6
Value of non-residential building	\$m	Aug. 95	480	28.7	4.4	1 114	44.2	28.1
Value of all building	\$m	Aug. 95	950	7.8	-24.1	2 402	19.6	-16.4
Commencements—								
New dwelling units	No.	June qtr 95	11 976	5.6	-9.9	35 949	1.9	-23.1
Value of new residential buildings (c)	\$m	June qtr 95	1 184	-2.4	-4.5	3 338	1.3	-16.2
Value of non-residential building (c)	\$m	June qtr 95	755	-43.4	-7.1	2 391	-19.2	-13.5
Value of all building (c)	\$m	June qtr 95	2 166	-21.2	-6.8	6 266	-6.9	-15.0
Value of work done in period (c)	\$m	June qtr 95	2 440	14.7	5.8	6 793	9.0	-0.1
Engineering Construction								
Private contractors—								
Value of work commenced	\$m	June qtr 95	430	-9.0	3.2	1 511	-18.1	-12.9
Value of work done	\$m	June qtr 95	566	4.8	-5.2	1 727	8.4	-3.3
Value of work yet to be done	\$m	June qtr 95	1 422	0.9	50.7	3 666	0.1	29.9
Value of work done by public sector	\$m	June qtr 95	826	50.4	27.9	1 987	39.5	12.4
Finance								
Housing finance for owner occupation—secured commitments to individuals by significant lenders	\$m	Aug. 95	1 409	0.8	-6.4	4 049	5.8	-7.0
Personal finance commitments—significant lenders	\$m	Aug. 95	926	0.9	19.7	2 801	-0.3	21.1
Commercial finance commitments—significant lenders	\$m	Aug. 95	4 956	14.1	19.3	10 722	10.3	17.9
Savings balances at end of month—								
All banks (d) (Source: Reserve Bank)	\$m	Aug. 95	117 138	0.4	(e)	262 553	0.7	8.6
Building societies	\$m	Aug. 95	3 479	1.0	11.3	10 956	1.5	-1.9
Credit unions	\$m	Aug. 95	5 609	2.0	16.6	12 716	1.9	14.1
Actual New Fixed Capital Expenditure (f)	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	2 537	-17.5	28.2	7 874	-15.6	24.1
New buildings and structures	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	579	-3.5	39.5	2 227	-2.7	19.6
Equipment, plant and machinery	\$m	Mar. qtr 95	1 958	-21.0	25.2	5 647	-19.8	28.0

(a) Average weekly overtime hours for those employees who were paid for overtime. (b) includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Average of 1989-90 prices. (d) Average of weekly deposit balances. (e) Unavailable owing to revisions being done nationally only. (f) By private enterprises.

